

Zeichen/Ref./Réf

P.B.5818 - Patentlaan 2 2280 HV Rijswijk (ZH) +31 70 340 2040 31651 epo ni +31 70 340 3016

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JER/MEP/F02-137 Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire

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25 APR 2003

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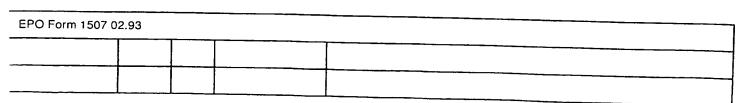
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Hef. JER/MEP/F02-137		Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demand 02250725.5	le n°./Patent Nr. /	Patent No/Brevet n°.			
FUJI P	deur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire HOTO FILM CO., LTD.	· ·					
		COMMUNICA	ATION				
The Europe	an Patent Office herewith transmit	3					
X	the European search report						
	the declaration under Rule 45 EP	С					
	the partial European search report under Rule 45 EPC						
	the supplementary European search report concerning the international application under Article 157(2) EPC relating to the above-mentioned European patent application. Copies of the documents cited in the search report are enclosed.						
The following	g specifications given by the applic	ant have been approved by the Sear	ch Division :				
_	Abstract	Title		Figure			
	The abstract was modified by the S	earch Division and the definitive text	is attached to t	his communication.			
(2)	The following figure will be published with the abstract, since the Search Division considers that it better characterises. the invention than the one indicated by the applicant.						
F	Figure:						

Datum/Date

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

Additional copy(copies) of the documents cited in the European search report.

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.







CLAIMS INCURRING FEES
The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.
Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report habeen drawn up for the first ten claims.
LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:
see sheet B
All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION SHEET B

Application Number

EP 02 25 0725

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1,5-16

Independent Claims 1 and 16:

Claim 1 defines a multicolor image-forming material comprising at least four thermal transfer sheets each having a different color, and a recording area being defined by a product of a length of 515 mm or more and width of 728 mm or more, and said thermal transfer sheets are larger in each of a length-wise and a width-wise direction than the image-receiving sheet by 20 mm to 80 mm, and the actual printing paper is larger in each of a length-wise and a width-wise direction than the image-receiving sheet by 5 mm to 100 mm.

Claim 16 defines a method for forming a multicolor image using the image-forming material of claim 1, wherein the transfer sheets have at least four colors including yellow, magenta, cyan and black.

2. Claims: 2-4,17

Independent Claims 2 and 17:

Claim 2 defines a multicolor image-forming material, wherein the dynamic frictional force between an image-receiving surface on the image-receiving sheet and a back surface on the opposite side thereof is 30 gf to 120 gf.

Claim 17 defines a method for forming a multicolor image using the multicolor image-forming material of claim 2, wherein the transfer sheets have at least four colors including yellow, magenta, cyan and black.

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number EP 02 25 0725

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Y	* page 6, line 29 * claims 1-3 *	- line 24 * - page 7, line 19 *	2,3,17	
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	The present search report has	been drawn up for all claims		
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ħ	MUNICH	8 April 2003	Pato	suo, S
X : partice Y : partice docum A : techno O : non-v	TEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS ularly relevant if taken alone ularly relevant if combined with another to the same category plogical background written disclosure tediate document	E : earlier patent doc after the filing date her D : document cited in L : document cited fo	e underlying the in- cument, but publish e n the application or other reasons	vention ned on, or

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	lace of search UNICH	Date of completion of the search 8 April 2003		Examiner
C: particul: C: particul: docume A: technolo D: non-wr	EGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS arly relevant if taken alone arly relevant if combined with another ent of the same category ogical background ritten disclosure diate document	T : theory or principl E : earlier patent do after the filing da D : document cited i L : document cited fo	n the application	tion On, or

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